

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 NAS-01 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 IO-13 /101 W
-----063213 281513Z /53
P 281341Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5919

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, UN
SUBJECT: NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE (NAS) VISIT: FURTHER
DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) 77 STATE 294206 (B) GENEVA 2730

1. SUMMARY: GOU SENT EMBASSY DIPLOMATIC NOTE FORMALLY APPROVING MEETINGS WHICH NAS VISITORS ANFINSEN AND PERRY REQUESTED WITH GOU OFFICIALS. SINCE NOTE ALSO IMPLIED THAT USG SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUBSEQUENT USE OF INFORMATION OBTAINED BY ANFINSEN AND PERRY, EMBASSY HAS SENT REPLY NOTE DESCRIBING IN DETAIL NAS AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO USG. GOU OFFICIALS ARE FURIOUS OVER COMMUNIQUE RELEASED RECENTLY IN GENEVA BY ROBERT GOLDMAN, (WHO VISITED URUGUAY IN DECEMBER AS MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL JURISTS HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP) WHICH QUOTES SUPREME MILITARY COURT PRESIDENT AS ADMITTING TORTURE BY MILITARY AND MAKING ANTI-SEMITIC REMARKS. THEIR SUSPICIONS ARE ALSO AROUSED BY RECENT RADIO MOSCOW ATTEMPTS TO EXPLOIT ANFINSEN VISIT FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES. THESE TWO DEVELOPMENTS HAVE NOT HELPED CLIMATE FOR VISIT. WHILE ANFINSEN AND PERRY WILL HAVE ALL MEETINGS REQUESTED WITH GOU OFFICIALS, ATMOSPHERE WILL PROBABLY BE SOMEWHAT FORMAL AND TENSE. END SUMMARY.

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2. DCM MET FEBRUARY 22 WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ALVARO ALVAREZ AT LATTER'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS NAS VISIT AND TO RECEIVE DIPLOMATIC NOTE REPLYING TO AMBASSADOR'S EARLIER APPROACH TO FONMIN ON SUBJECT.

3. NOTE STATES THAT: (A) THE OFFICIAL MEETINGS REQUESTED

FOR ANFINSSEN AND PERRY VISIT MARCH 9-14 HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED AND WILL TAKE PLACE WITH THE APPROPRIATE GOU AUTHORITIES, (B) THE PROPOSED ITINERARY HAS BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPAL, AND (C) OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY'S PROTOCOL OFFICE WILL MEET ANFINSSEN AND PERRY ON ARRIVAL AT CARRASCO AIRPORT TO GIVE THEM DETAILED SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS.

4. NOTE ALSO REFERS TO DAVENPORT ACCOMPANYING ANFINSSEN/PERRY AND REQUESTS CURRICULUM VITAE INFORMATION ON HIM. DCM EXPLAINED THAT DAVENPORT WAS FULL TIME NAS PROFESSIONAL STAFFER AND THAT HE WOULD BE IN MONTEVIDEO ONLY MARCH 2-4 TO ADVANCE ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS OF VISIT, INCLUDING DETAILED SCHEDULE, AT WHICH TIME WE WOULD FURNISH BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION REQUESTED.

5. NOTE CONCLUDES WITH FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH: QUOTE I WISH TO MAKE EXPRESSLY CLEAR TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT A DECISIVE FACTOR IN GRANTING THESE APPOINTMENTS HAS BEEN THE SUPPORT THAT YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT GIVE TO THE VISIT OF DRS. ANFINSSEN AND PERRY; AND THAT, CONSEQUENTLY, THE GOU TAKES FOR GRANTED THAT THE INTERVIEWS THAT THEY HAVE HERE AND THE INFORMATION THAT THEY OBTAIN FROM THEM WILL BE FAITHFULLY UTILIZED ABROAD, SINCE AS YOUR EXCELLENCY KNOWS AND IS WELL KNOWN, THE REPUBLIC FINDS ITSELF SUBJECT TO A DEFAMATORY CAMPAIGN ABROAD. UNQUOTE.

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6. FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF NOTE DCM EXPRESSED SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THIS LAST PARA, WHICH IMPLIED THAT USG WAS OR SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR NAS VISIT AND PARTICULARLY FOR SUBSEQUENT USE OF INFORMATION VISITORS OBTAINED.

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ALVAREZ REPLIED THAT GOU OFFICIALS WHO MET WITH GOLDMAN INTERNATIONAL JURISTS GROUP WHICH VISITED MID-DECEMBER FELT THEY HAD BEEN "BURNED". THEY BITTERLY RESENTED THAT GOLDMAN IN PRESS COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN GENEVA MID-FEBRUARY (REFTEL B) HAD "PUT SLANDEROUS WORDS INTO THE MOUTH OF" MILITARY COURT PRESIDENT COL. SILVA LEDESMA, WORDS WHICH WERE AN ADMISSION OF TORTURE BY THE MILITARY AS WELL AS ANTI-SEMITIC. GOU IN ITS NOTE WAS THEREFORE SERVING NOTICE THAT WHILE ITS OFFICIALS WOULD MEET WITH THE NAS GROUP, THEY WANTED NO REPITITION OF THE UNFORTUNATE EXPERIENCE WITH THE GOLDMAN GROUP. IN REPLY DCM NOTED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GOLDMAN AND NAS GROUPS AND DESCRIBED IN DETAIL NAS AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO USG. THIS EXPLANATION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INCORPORATED INTO A FEBRUARY 24 DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM THE AMBASSADOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER, WHICH ALSO RECOUNTED THE FULLL HISTORY OF USG AND NAS DEALINGS WITH THE GOU CONCERNING THE VISIT. THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THIS NOTE: QUOTE WITH REGARD TO THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF YOUR NOTE OF FEBRUARY 21, YOUR EXCELLENCY SHOULD CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES IS A PRIVATE INSTITUTION AND IS MAKING THIS VISIT SOLELY AT ITS OWN INITIATIVE. THE ACADEMY FUNCTIONS FREELY AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS ACTIVITIES TO ITS FULL MEMBERSHIP. AS IN THE CASE OF OTHER PRIVATE AMERICAN IN-

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STITUTIONS, ITS ACTIVITIES ARE NOT CONTROLLED BY THE GOVERNMENT EITHER INTERNALLY OR ABROAD. AS A VERY PRESTIGIOUS PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTION, THE ACADEMY NATURALLY ADHERES TO THE HIGH STANDARDS OF RESPONSIBILITY SET BY ITS MEMBERSHIP. MY GOVERNMENT HAS OFFERED ITS ASSISTANCE TO THE ACADEMCY TO HELP FACILITATE THE ACADEMY'S DESIRE TO OPEN COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN IT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY. I SHARE YOUR EXCELLENCY'S DESIRE THAT THIS VISIT AND ITS RESULTS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE CONSTRUCTIVELY TO RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. I BELIEVE THIS OUTCOME CAN BEST BE ASSURED IF EVERYONE INVOLVED DOES THE UTMOST TO ASSURE THAT THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THE VISIT TAKES PLACE IS WHOLESOME AND POSITIVE. UNQUOTE.

7. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, GOU OFFICIALS HAVE REPORT OF A FEBURARY 18 RADIO MOSCOW ANNOUNCEMENT BY RODNEY ARISMENDI, FORMER FIRST SECRETARY OF THE PCU NOW LIVING IN MOSCOW, THAT

CHRISTIAN ANFINSEN WAS FORBIDDEN ENTRY INTO URUGUAY TO VISIT MASSERA AND HIS WIFE. HARDLINERS WITHIN GOU ARE REPORTEDLY CITING THIS PROPAGANDA BROADCAST AS EVIDENCE THAT COMMUNISTS ARE SOMEHOW BEHIND ANFINSEN VISIT. COMMENT: IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GOU OFFICIALS, EMBASSY HAS USED PRESS REPORTS OF NAS ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF SOVIET DISSIDENT SCHARANSKY AS EVIDENCE OF NAS'S EVENHANDED APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS. END COMMENT.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT SHOULD PASS FOREGOING INFORMATION TO ANFINSEN AND PERRY. THEY SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AWARE THAT GOLDMAN'S ACCUSATIONS IN GENEVA HAVE INFURIATED GOU OFFICIALS AND NOT HELPED THE CLIMATE FOR THEIR VISIT. FURTHERMORE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT HENCEFORTH OFFICIAL NOTE-TAKER WILL BE PRESENT DURING ALL MEETINGS BETWEEN GOU OFFICIALS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VISITORS. THUS WHILE ANFINSEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND PERRY WILL HAVE ALL MEETINGS REQUESTED, ATMOSPHERE WILL PROBABLY BE SOMEWHAT FORMAL AND TENSE. WE WILL DISCUSS THESE DEVELOPMENTS WITH DAVENPORT DURING HIS MARCH 2-4 VISIT TO MONTEVIDEO. DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO WISH TO SHARE SOME OF THIS INFORMATION WITH AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION VISITORS BUTLER AND RECQUE. CHEEK

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